

## QuickAlerts Messages November 2016

### QuickAlerts –November 3, 2016

**Subject:** Maintenance and Testing of the Modernized Electronic Filing (MeF) System

The MeF Acceptance Testing System (ATS) and Production systems will be off-line Saturday, November 5, 2016, from 7:00 a.m. Eastern until 9:00 p.m. Eastern, to perform maintenance and testing.

Thank you in advance for refraining from accessing the MeF ATS and Production Systems during this period.

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### QuickAlerts –November 3, 2016

**Subject:** Affordable Care Act Assurance Testing System (AATS) Information Returns for Tax Year 2016 (Filing Season 2017)

Filing Season (FS) 2017 AATS begins on November 7, 2016. Transmitters and Software Developers will be able to submit test scenarios for both Tax Year 2016 and Tax Year 2015.

Review the [AIR Program](#) page for AIR Transmission Checklists and Special Instructions about the functionality of AATS.

**A2A Channel users:** The FS 2017 WSDL Package contains the End Points needed to test Tax Year 2015 AIR Scenarios in AATS. Please use the WSDL files in the FS 2017 Package along with the 2015v8.0 schemas to transmit Tax Year 2015 returns to AATS.

If you have not received the WSDLs for Tax Year 2016, the Responsible Official, or an official identified as a Contact on the AIR TCC Application, must send an email to [airmailbox@irs.gov](mailto:airmailbox@irs.gov) with "WSDLs for Tax Year 2016" in the subject line. The email request must include your company name and AIR TCC. Upon confirmation of the TCC application and contact information, the WSDLs will be forwarded.

Note: A2A users who have passed AATS for Tax Year 2015 must use the WSDL files in the "AIR WSDL TY2015 JAN" Package to transmit **Production files from now through December 2016**.

**UI Channel users:** UI Channel users are required to log in to the IRS Registered User Portal (RUP) and invoke the appropriate link for AIR. WSDLs are not required for UI Channel users.

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### QuickAlerts –November 4, 2016

**Subject:** ACA Information Returns (AIR) Working Group Meeting on November 15, 2016

The next ACA Information Returns (AIR) Working Group Meeting (webinar) will be:

Tuesday, November 15, 2016

The conference begins at 3:00 Eastern Time

Dial-in: 1-877-369-5243 Passcode: 0197659# (Enter the access code on your telephone keypad, followed immediately by the # symbol to bypass system prompts)

This is a technical Webinar to cover the changes to the AIR Composition and Reference Guide, adding software to the TCC Application, a demonstration of the Manifest in Schema form and a demonstration of the 1095C in Schema form. This Webinar will not address Tax Law or Policy issues related to the AIR Program.

You may join the teleconference 5 minutes prior to the scheduled start. Registration is required to attend the webinar. Participants should register for the webinar no later than 10:00 a.m. Eastern Time on the day of the event.

To register for this event, use the following link:

[Webinar Registration](#)

If clicking the above link does not work, please copy the entire link and paste it into your web browser. A confirmation email will be sent within 24 hours of registration.

This virtual session will focus on General Affordable Care Act Information Returns (AIR) Program topics. At the conclusion of the presentation, there will be a live question and answer period with IRS presenters.

You may use your computer speakers to listen to the webinar or use the teleconference number provided above. To avoid background noise, please do not use both the computer speakers and the teleconference number.

The presentation for this meeting will be posted to the [AIR Program Overview](#) Page prior to the meeting. An additional QuickAlerts message will be issued when the presentation is posted.

NOTE: The intended audiences of these meetings are Transmitters, Software Developers and Issuers/Payers.

If you are a business owner, tax manager, employee benefits manager, health coverage provider, or software developer or transmitter, you can access and review the **Affordable Care Act Information Returns Corrections Process** video on the [IRS Video Portal](#).

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#### **QuickAlerts –November 10, 2016**

**Subject:** TY2016/2017 Schemas and Business Rules are Available for Download

Publication 5164, Test Package for Electronic Filers of Affordable Care Act (ACA) Information Returns (AIR) (Processing Year 2017) Rev. 9-2016 has been posted on [IRS.gov](#).

If you have any questions, please send them to the [AIR Mailbox](#).

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#### **QuickAlerts –November 14, 2016**

**Subject:** Update for the ACA Information Returns (AIR) Working Group Meeting on November 15, 2016

The November 15, 2016 (AIR) Working Group Meeting (Webinar) Presentation materials have been posted on the [AIR Program Overview](#) page.

This webinar is schedule to begin at 3:00 p.m. Eastern Time. As a reminder, you must register to attend the webinar. Participants should register for the webinar no later than 10:00 a.m. Eastern Time on the day of the event. To register for this event, use the following link: [Webinar Registration](#).

If clicking the above link does not work, please copy the entire link and paste it into your web browser. A confirmation email will be sent within 24 hours of registration. You may join the associated teleconference 5 minutes prior to the scheduled start.

Dial-in: 1-877-369-5243

Event ID: 0197659# (Enter the access code on your telephone keypad, followed immediately by the # symbol to bypass system prompts)

This will be a technical Webinar to cover the changes to the AIR Composition and Reference Guide, adding software to the TCC Application, a demonstration of the Manifest in Schema form and a demonstration of the 1095C in Schema form. This Webinar will not address Tax Law or Policy issues related to the AIR Program.

You may use your computer speakers to listen to the webinar or use the teleconference number provided above. To avoid background noise, please do not use both the computer speakers and the teleconference number.

NOTE: The intended audiences of these meetings are Transmitters, Software Developers and Issuers/Payers.

If you are a business owner, tax manager, employee benefits manager, health coverage provider, or software developer or transmitter, you can access and review the Affordable Care Act Information Returns Corrections Process video on the IRS Video Portal.

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### QuickAlerts –November 17, 2016

**Subject:** Maintenance and Testing of the Modernized Electronic Filing (MeF) System

The MeF Acceptance Testing System (ATS) and Production systems will be off-line Saturday, November 19, 2016, from 7:00 a.m. Eastern until 9:00 p.m. Eastern, to perform maintenance and testing.

Thank you in advance for refraining from accessing the MeF ATS and Production Systems during this period.

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### QuickAlerts –November 29, 2016

**Subject:** Important information for e-Services users

Over the next five weeks, the IRS will send letters to certain e-Services product users who must either go online or call the e-Services e-Help Desk to validate their identities. These letters will go to those users who can access the Transcript Delivery Service and who have been active within the past year. To learn more about who is affected, who must validate their identities and what is required, please go to the e-Services main page at [www.irs.gov/eservices](http://www.irs.gov/eservices). Users who receive these letters will have 30 days to either authenticate their identities online or call to authenticate by phone.

Do not call the e-Help Desk unless you receive a letter or your account is suspended. If you do not revalidate in time, your account will be suspended for security purposes.

**NOTE:** *Cybercriminals currently are engaged in ongoing phishing attempts to steal e-Services users' usernames and passwords. Be alert to phishing scams either by letter, email or phone. Make sure the communication you receive is from official IRS sources. If in doubt, go directly to IRS.gov.*

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### QuickAlerts –November 30, 2016

**Subject:** Extended Maintenance Window for MeF Production and ATS Environments

The MeF maintenance build window is being extended on Sunday, December 4, 2016. The systems will be unavailable from 12:00 a.m. until 10:00 a.m. Eastern. The build will deploy critical system updates. This extended window affects the MeF Production and ATS Environments.

Thank you in advance for refraining from accessing the MeF Production and ATS Systems during this period.

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